

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing oxidative corrosion of a metal, comprising:

applying an anti-corrosion composition to a surface of a metal or a device containing a metal susceptible to oxidative corrosion, said composition comprising an amount of an anti-corrosion agent comprising a ~~The method of claim 1, wherein said~~ lower alkyl carboxylic acid moiety is in the form of a lower alkyl carboxylic acid anion effective for forming an anti-corrosive barrier over said surface, and optionally further comprising a moisture retentive barrier forming material in an amount effective for forming a moisture retentive barrier over said surface.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing oxidative corrosion of a metal, comprising:

applying an anti-corrosion composition to a surface of a metal or a device containing a metal susceptible to oxidative corrosion, said composition comprising an amount of an anti-corrosion agent comprising a lower alkyl carboxylic acid moiety effective for forming an anti-corrosive barrier over said surface, and optionally further comprising a moisture retentive barrier forming material in an amount effective for forming a moisture retentive barrier over said surface ~~The method of claim 1, wherein~~ said anti-corrosion agent and said material capable of forming a

moisture retentive barrier over a surface of said metal are in powdered form.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ±4, wherein said anti-corrosion agent and said material capable of forming a moisture retentive barrier over a surface of said metal are both provided in powdered form to produce a powdered composition; and wherein said powdered composition is applied to a surface of said metal by powder metallurgy processing.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ±2, wherein said material capable of forming a moisture retentive barrier over a surface of said metal is selected from the group consisting of a polar liquid, a nonpolar liquid, a viscous material, an organic liquid, a polymeric material and a petroleum-based substance, and mixtures thereof.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ±2, wherein said composition further comprises any one of a polar liquid, a non-polar liquid, a surfactant, an antioxidant, ~~all~~an organic liquid, a polymeric material, a petroleum-based substance, a buffering material, or graphite or particulate carbon in a suspension.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing oxidative corrosion of a metal, comprising:

applying an anti-corrosion composition to a surface of a metal or a device containing a metal susceptible to oxidative corrosion, said composition comprising an amount of an anti-corrosion agent comprising a lower alkyl carboxylic acid moiety

effective for forming an anti-corrosive barrier over said surface,
and optionally further comprising a moisture retentive barrier
forming material in an amount effective for forming a moisture
retentive barrier over said surface~~The method of claim 1, wherein~~
said anti-corrosion agent is packaged for delayed release.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said anti-corrosion agent is encapsulated.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~2, wherein in said composition, said anti-corrosion agent is present at a concentration from about 0.2 to about 60 percent by weight.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~2, wherein said composition is first prepared in concentrated form and then diluted.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~2, said method further comprising, following said applying step, the step of applying a further coating layer over said surface.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said further coating layer is applied by a process selected from the group consisting of painting, electro-plating and electro-polishing.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~2, wherein said applying step comprises using said composition as a lubricant for a surface of said metal.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said applying step comprises using said composition as a pump oil or brake fluid.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing oxidative corrosion of a metal, comprising:

applying an anti-corrosion composition to a surface of a metal or a device containing a metal susceptible to oxidative corrosion, said composition comprising an amount of an anti-corrosion agent comprising a lower alkyl carboxylic acid moiety that is~~The method of claim 1, wherein said lower alkyl carboxylic acid moiety is~~derived from a C1-C6 carboxylate and is effective for forming an anti-corrosive barrier over said surface, and optionally further comprising a moisture retentive barrier forming material in an amount effective for forming a moisture retentive barrier over said surface~~anion.~~

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein said C1-C6 carboxylate ~~anion~~ is selected from the group consisting of formate, acetate, propionate, butyrate, and 2-methyl propionate, and mixtures thereof.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said C1-C6 carboxylate ~~anion is associated with~~comprises a cation selected from alkali metal or alkaline earth metal cations.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said cation is sodium.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~17, wherein said lower alkyl carboxylic acid moiety is derived from sodium propionate.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~2, wherein said anti-corrosion agent is ingestible by humans.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein said composition further comprises at least one additional anti-corrosive agent that is different from said lower alkyl carboxylic acid moiety and ~~that~~ which is also ingestible by humans.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~23~~2, wherein ~~said at least one additional anti-corrosion agent comprises~~ further comprising a 2,4-trans, trans-hexadiene moiety.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein said 2,4-trans, trans-hexadiene moiety is in the form of a 2,4-trans, trans-hexadienoate anion.

26. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said composition further comprises at least one compound capable of increasing the solubility of said ingestible anti-corrosion agent.

27. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing oxidative corrosion of a metal, comprising:

applying an anti-corrosion composition to a surface of a metal or a device containing a metal susceptible to oxidative corrosion, said composition comprising an amount of an anti-corrosion agent comprising a lower alkyl carboxylic acid moiety effective for forming an anti-corrosive barrier over said surface,
~~The method of claim 1,~~ wherein said composition further comprises a ~~benzeate~~ benzoic moiety, and optionally further comprising a moisture retentive barrier forming material in an amount effective for forming a moisture retentive barrier over said surface.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing oxidative corrosion of a metal, comprising:

applying an anti-corrosion composition to a surface of a metal or a device containing a metal susceptible to oxidative corrosion, said composition comprising an amount of an anti-corrosion agent comprising a lower alkyl carboxylic acid moiety effective for forming an anti-corrosive barrier over said surface, and optionally further comprising a moisture retentive barrier forming material in an amount effective for forming a moisture retentive barrier over said surface~~The method of claim 1,~~ wherein said lower alkyl carboxylic acid moiety~~composition~~ comprises a ~~propionate moiety~~ propionic anion, and wherein said composition further comprises a 2,4-trans, trans-hexadieneate ~~hexadienoic moiety anion~~ and a ~~benzeate~~ benzoic moiety anion.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing oxidative corrosion of a metal, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a metal or a device containing a metal wherein said metal is susceptible to oxidative corrosion;

providing an anti-corrosion solution, said solution comprising an effective amount of an anti-corrosion agent dissolved in a polar solvent, said agent comprising a C1-C6 carboxylic acid moiety~~The method of claim 29, wherein said C1-C6 carboxylic acid moiety is~~in the form of a propionate anion; and
continuously immersing said metal or said device in said solution.

31-71. (Cancelled)